

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 18, 2005

The Honorable George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to express our strong support for Governor Mitch Daniels' January 14, 2005 request for a major disaster declaration for the State of Indiana following a weeklong winter storm that resulted in heavy snow and ice in Northern and Central Indiana and severe flooding in Southern Indiana.

The governor is requesting specific disaster relief for Bartholomew, Benton, Blackford, Boone, Brown, Carroll, Cass, Clark, Clay, Clinton, Crawford, Daviess, Decatur, Delaware, Dubois, Floyd, Fountain, Gibson, Grant, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Harrison, Hendricks, Henry, Howard, Huntington, Jackson, Jay, Jennings, Johnson, Knox, Lawrence, Madison, Marion, Martin, Miami, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Orange, Owen, Parke, Perry, Pike, Posey, Putnam, Randolph, Rush, Scott, Shelby, Spencer, Sullivan, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Vanderburgh, Vermillion, Vigo, Wabash, Warren, Warrick Washington, Wells and White Counties. Assessments are continuing in other counties that have sustained significant damage and these counties may be added to the list as the assessments are completed.

The weeklong winter storm mix of heavy rain, snow, and ice has damaged thousands of homes and businesses. While it is too early to determine all that was lost, it is apparent that the costs to these communities will be high, and federal assistance is urgently needed to help these individuals, families, and businesses recover.

It has been reported that severe weather may continue to threaten portions of the state, and any additional snow or rainfall will prolong the flash flood threat, as the ground remains saturated from the storms. For that reason, the threat is ongoing and underscores the need for swift action.

We request timely consideration be given to Governor Daniels' request. Federal assistance is essential to helping Indiana communities recover from this severe weather event.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



Mike Pence
Member of Congress



Dan Burton
Member of Congress



Pete Visclosky
Member of Congress



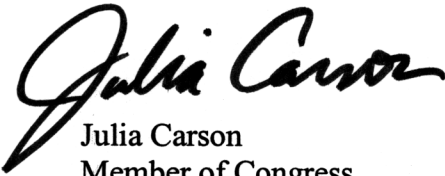
Steve Buyer
Member of Congress



Mark Souder
Member of Congress



John Hostetler
Member of Congress



Julia Carson
Member of Congress



Chris Chocola
Member of Congress



Mike Sodrel
Member of Congress

cc: Edward G. Buikema
FEMA Regional Director, Region V